

I am writing in support of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) petition for Declaratory Ruling regarding programming carried by Satellite Digital Audio Radio Services.

The NAB Petition seeks to merely ask the FCC to enforce the provider's original promise when digital services were granted licenses to be national only. The providers have now blatantly gone against their promise and started to deliver local programming via weather and traffic services. One can imagine that this is only the beginning.

Bear in mind, these are companies that have no public interest requirements placed upon their licenses, ownership limits, or any need to invest locally in their communities. Licensed broadcast stations do.

For over 80 years, LOCAL broadcasters have supported their communities and become "stakeholders" within the communities they serve. We have a responsibility to address local issues, provide public service time, and keep listeners informed about their communities. Satellite providers have no such requirements, either from a service or economic standpoint.

Radio stations in communities all across America contributed \$9.6 Billion in public service support to local communities. That includes public service announcements, and as in our case in Brattleboro, VT, hours of air time devoted to helping raise tens of thousands of dollars in food to support our areas hungry. Moreover, we are able to increase the effectiveness of our community support by networking and partnering with other local businesses to increase our efforts substantially. The satellite providers CAN'T, and I suspect WON'T offer any of this type of support to ANY local community. The fact of the matter is that they can't connect with their neighbors like local broadcasters can.

Please be sure that digital satellite broadcasters keep their promise and remain national only. Allowing them to program locally, without the responsibilities that go with it, will only harm us all in the long run. I urge the FCC to support the NAB's petition for Declaratory Ruling on this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Trombly
General Manager
WKVT AM, WKVT FM, WRSY FM